

**Geetanjali Trading and Investments Private Limited**

**Policy on Fit and Proper Criteria for appointment of Directors**

Version: 4.0

(Version Date: 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2024)

**Policy Custodian:**

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**Policy Governance:**

<b>Frequency of Review</b>	Annual /Periodically whenever there is any change
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**Table of Contents**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
1.	Regulatory framework and Background	3
2.	Objectives	3
3.	Scope and Application	3
4.	Evaluation of Fit & Proper Criteria	3
5.	Quarterly Reporting	5
6.	Effective Date	5
7.	Annexure	5
8.	Format of Annex – VII (Declaration and Undertaking)	6
9.	Format of Annex - VIII (Deed of Covenants)	9

## **1. Regulatory framework and Background**

- a. As per the Reserve Bank of India (“RBI”) Circular review guidelines dated August 13 2020 , the CIC are required to put into place a policy for ascertaining the ‘fit and proper’ criteria to be adopted at the time of appointment of directors and on a continuing basis. Geetanjali Trading and Investments Private Limited (“**Company**”), being an NBFC (CIC-ND-SI), is accordingly required to put such a policy in place.
- b. This policy (“**Policy**”) was approved by the Board at its meeting held on June 30 , 2021. The Policy has been created in line with the guidelines provided by the RBI in the RBI Circular and shall be reviewed by the Board periodically including in the context of any additional guidelines or directions which may be issued by the RBI in this regard.

## **2. Objectives**

- a. The objective of the Policy is to set out the ‘fit and proper’ criteria based on which new directors proposed to be appointed and existing directors whose appointment is intended to be continued can be evaluated.
- b. The Company believes that this policy will aid the Company’s constant Endeavour to ensure that only individual of high caliber and who possess the right blend of qualifications, expertise, track record and integrity are appointed to the Board.

## **3. Scope and Application**

- a. The Policy shall apply in respect of appointment of directors on the Board of Directors of the Company (“**Board**”) as well as continuation of the appointment of the directors on the Board.
- b. Subject to paragraph [3(c) ] below, the Policy shall be applicable with effect from June 30, 2021.
- c. All existing directors on the Board will be required to submit the Declaration and Undertaking (as defined below) and execute the Director Covenant (as defined below) within a period of 30 days from the Effective Date.

## **4. Evaluation of Fit & Proper Criteria**

- a) Before appointing any person as a director on the Board or continuing the appointment of any such director, the Board shall undertake adequate due diligence in respect of such individuals to ascertain suitability on the basis of the qualification, expertise, track record, integrity of such individual and also such other factors in respect of which information is obtained by the Company in the

Declaration and Undertaking (as defined below).

The Company shall prior to the appointment of any person as a director on the Board obtain necessary information and declaration from the proposed / existing directors for the purpose in the format given at Annex- VII to the CI C Directions or such other format (where applicable) which may prescribe for the purpose by the RBI from time to time (“**Declaration and Undertaking**”). The Declaration and Undertaking in respect of the directors on the Board as on the Effective Date shall be obtained from the directors within the time line specified in paragraph [3 (c)] above.

- b) The Board shall scrutinize each Declaration and Undertaking received. The Board shall after considering the result of its due diligence (mentioned in D1 above) and the information provided in the signed Declaration and Undertaking, **decide** on the acceptance or otherwise of the potential new directors or existing directors whose appointment is to be continued or renewed, as the case may be.
- c) In order to conclude that a person is ‘fit and proper’ to be appointed as a director on the Board or to continue in that capacity (as the case may be), the Board must be able to form a view that it would be prudent to conclude;
  - i. the person meets the fit and proper criteria expressly set out by the RBI in the RBI Circular or such other or additional criteria (where applicable) which may prescribe for the purpose by the RBI from time to time
  - ii. the person possesses the qualifications, competence, technical expertise, track record, integrity and judgement to perform properly the duties of a director on the Board;
  - iii. the person possesses the educational or technical qualifications, knowledge and skills relevant to the duties and responsibilities as a director on the Board;
  - iv. the person either:
    - has no conflict of interest in performing such person’s duties as a director on the Board; or
    - if the person has a conflict of interest, it would be prudent to conclude that the conflict will not create a material risk that the person will fail to perform such person’s duties properly and adequate disclosures are made by the person in this regard.
- d) The Company shall require every director on the Board to annually provide not later than April 30 a simple declaration (reflecting the position as on 31st

March) which either confirms that the information already provided to the Board in the Declaration and Undertaking has not undergone any change or where there is any change, specifies the requisite details of such change. Any declarations which indicate a change in the information provided in the original Declaration and Undertaking shall also be scrutinized by the NRC and the NRC shall keep the Board apprised of any such changes.

- e) The Board shall ensure that any person who is appointed as director on the Board shall, on or before the date on which such person's appointment becomes effective, execute a deed of covenant in the format given in Annex-VIII of the CIC Directions or such other format (where applicable) which may prescribe for the purpose by the RBI from time to time ("**Deed of Covenant**"). The Deed of Covenant in respect of the directors on the Board as on the Effective Date shall be executed between the Company and such directors within the timeline specified in paragraph [3 (c)] above

## **5. Quarterly Reporting**

The Company furnish to the RBI a quarterly statement on change of directors, and a certificate from the Managing Director of the CIC that fit and proper criteria in selection of the directors has been followed. The statement must reach the Regional Office of the Department of Supervision of the Bank where the company is registered, within 15 days of the close of the respective quarter. The statement submitted by applicable CIC for the quarter ending March 31, shall be certified by the auditors.

## **6. Effective Date**

This policy version 1.0 has been adopted at the Company's Board of Directors meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 and shall stand applicable organization wide with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2021.

## **7. Annexure**

- a. Format of Declaration and Undertaking by Director (with enclosures as appropriate as on \_\_\_\_\_ (As per Annex VII of CIC Directions)
- b. Form of Deed of Covenants with a Director of a CIC (As per Annex VIII of CIC Directions)

**X-X-X-X**

Name of CIC: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Declaration and Undertaking by Director (with enclosures as appropriate as on _____)</b>	
<b>I.</b>	<b>Personal details of director</b>
a.	Full name
b.	Date of Birth
c.	Educational Qualifications
d.	Relevant Background and Experience
e.	Permanent Address
f.	Present Address
g.	E-mail Address / Telephone Number
h.	Permanent Account Number under the Income Tax Act and name and address of Income Tax Circle
i.	Relevant knowledge and experience
j.	Any other information relevant to Directorship of the CIC
<b>II</b>	<b>Relevant Relationships of director</b>
a.	List of Relatives if any who are connected with the CIC (Refer section 6 and Schedule 1A of the Companies Act, 1956 and corresponding provisions of New Companies Act, 2013)
b.	List of entities if any in which he/she is considered as being interested (Refer section 299(3)(a) and section 300 of the Companies Act, 1956 and corresponding provisions of New Companies Act, 2013)
c.	List of entities in which he/she is considered as holding substantial interest within the meaning of prudential norms as prescribed in these Directions.
d.	Name of NBFC in which he/she is or has been a member of the board (giving details of period during which such office was held)
e.	Fund and non-fund facilities, if any, presently availed of by him/her and/or by entities listed in II (b) and (c) above from the CIC
f.	Cases, if any, where the director or entities listed in II (b)

	and (c) above are in default or have been in default in the past in respect of credit facilities obtained from the CIC or any other NBFC / bank.	
III	<b>Records of professional achievements</b>	
	a. Relevant professional achievements	
IV.	<b>Proceedings, if any, against the director</b>	
	a. If the director is a member of a professional association/body, details of disciplinary action, if any, pending or commenced or resulting in conviction in the past against him/her or whether he/she has been banned from entry into any profession/ occupation at any time.	
	b. Details of prosecution, if any, pending or commenced or resulting in conviction in the past against the director and/or against any of the entities listed in II (b) and (c) above for violation of economic laws and regulations	
	c. Details of criminal prosecution, if any, pending or commenced or resulting in conviction in the last five years against the director	
	d. Whether the director attracts any of the disqualifications envisaged under section 274 of the Companies Act 1956 and corresponding provisions of New Companies Act, 2013?	
	e. Has the director or any of the entities at II (b) and (c) above been subject to any investigation at the instance of Government department or agency?	
	f. Has the director at any time been found guilty of violation of rules/regulations/ legislative requirements by customs/ excise /income tax/foreign exchange /other revenue authorities, if so give particulars	
	g. Whether the director has at any time come to the adverse notice of a regulator such as SEBI, IRDA, MCA.	
	<b>(Though it shall not be necessary for a candidate to mention in the column about orders and findings made by the regulators which have been later on reversed/set aside in to, it would be necessary to</b>	

	make a mention of the same, in case the reversal/setting aside is on technical reasons like limitation or lack of jurisdiction, etc and not on merit, If the order of the regulator is temporarily stayed and the appellate/ court proceedings are pending, the same also should be mentioned.)	
V.	<b>Any other explanation / information in regard to items I to III and other information considered relevant for judging fit and proper</b>	
<b>Undertaking</b>		
I confirm that the above information is to the best of my knowledge and belief true and complete. I undertake to keep the CIC fully informed, as soon as possible, of all events which take place subsequent to my appointment which are relevant to the information provided above.		
I also undertake to execute the deed of covenant required to be executed by all directors of the NBFC.		
	Place :	Signature
	Date :	
VI.	<b>Remarks of Chairman of Nomination Committee/Board of Directors of CIC</b>	
	Place :	Signature
	Date:	



**Form of Deed of Covenants with a Director of a CIC**

**THIS DEED OF COVENANTS** is made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ Two thousand  
\_ **BETWEEN** \_\_\_\_\_, having its registered office at \_\_\_\_\_  
(hereinafter for the purpose of this Annex, Core Investment Company is being called the  
"NBFC") of the one part and Mr / Ms \_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter called the  
"Director") of the other part.

**WHEREAS**

A. The director has been appointed as a director on the Board of Directors of the NBFC (hereinafter called "the Board") and is required as a term of his / her appointment to enter into a Deed of Covenants with the NBFC.

B. The director has agreed to enter into this Deed of Covenants, which has been approved by the Board, pursuant to his said terms of appointment.

**NOW IT IS HEREBY AGREED AND THIS DEED OF COVENANTS WITNESSETH AS FOLLOWS :**

1. The director acknowledges that his / her appointment as director on the Board of the NBFC is subject to applicable laws and regulations including the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the NBFC and the provisions of this Deed of Covenants.

2. The director covenants with the NBFC that :

(i) The director shall disclose to the Board the nature of his / her interest, direct or indirect, if he / she has any interest in or is concerned with a contract or arrangement or any proposed contract or arrangement entered into or to be entered into between the NBFC and any other person, immediately upon becoming aware of the same or at meeting of the Board at which the question of entering into such contract or arrangement is taken into consideration or if the director was not at the date of that meeting concerned or interested in such proposed contract or arrangement, then at the first meeting of the Board held after he / she becomes so concerned or interested and in case of any other contract or arrangement, the required disclosure shall be made at the first meeting of the Board held after the director becomes concerned or interested in the contract or arrangement.

(ii) The director shall disclose by general notice to the Board his / her other directorships, his / her memberships of bodies corporate, his / her interest in other

entities and his / her interest as a partner or proprietor of firms and shall keep the Board apprised of all changes therein.

(iii) The director shall provide to the NBFC a list of his / her relatives as defined in the Companies Act, 1956 or 2013 and to the extent the director is aware of directorships and interests of such relatives in other bodies corporate, firms and other entities.

(iv) The director shall in carrying on his / her duties as director of the NBFC:

- a. use such degree of skill as may be reasonable to expect from a person with his / her knowledge or experience;
- b. in the performance of his / her duties take such care as he / she might be reasonably expected to take on his / her own behalf and exercise any power vested in him / her in good faith and in the interests of the NBFC;
- c. shall keep himself / herself informed about the business, activities and financial status of the NBFC to the extent disclosed to him / her;
- d. attend meetings of the Board and Committees thereof (collectively for the sake of brevity hereinafter referred to as "Board") with fair regularity and conscientiously fulfil his / her obligations as director of the NBFC;
- e. shall not seek to influence any decision of the Board for any consideration other than in the interests of the NBFC;
- f. shall bring independent judgment to bear on all matters affecting the NBFC brought before the Board including but not limited to statutory compliances, performance reviews, compliances with internal control systems and procedures, key executive appointments and standards of conduct;
- g. shall in exercise of his / her judgement in matters brought before the Board or entrusted to him / her by the Board be free from any business or other relationship which could materially interfere with the exercise of his / her independent judgement; and
- h. shall express his / her views and opinions at Board meetings without any fear or favour and without any influence on exercise of his / her independent judgement;

(v) The director shall have:

- a. fiduciary duty to act in good faith and in the interests of the NBFC and not for any collateral purpose;
- b. duty to act only within the powers as laid down by the NBFC's Memorandum and Articles of Association and by applicable laws and regulations; and
- c. duty to acquire proper understanding of the business of the NBFC.

(vi) The director shall:

- a. not evade responsibility in regard to matters entrusted to him / her by the Board;
- b. not interfere in the performance of their duties by the whole-time directors and other officers of the NBFC and wherever the director has reasons to believe otherwise, he / she shall forthwith disclose his / her concerns to the Board; and
- c. not make improper use of information disclosed to him / her as a member of the Board for his / her or someone else's advantage or benefit and shall use the information disclosed to him / her by the NBFC in his / her capacity as director of the NBFC only for the purposes of performance of his / her duties as a director and not for any other purpose.

3. The NBFC covenants with the director that:

(i) the NBFC shall apprise the director about:

- a. Board procedures including identification of legal and other duties of Director and required compliances with statutory obligations;
- b. control systems and procedures;
- c. voting rights at Board meetings including matters in which Director should not participate because of his / her interest, direct or indirect therein;
- d. qualification requirements and provide copies of Memorandum and Articles of Association;
- e. corporate policies and procedures;
- f. insider dealing restrictions;
- g. constitution of, delegation of authority to and terms of reference of various committees constituted by the Board;
- h. appointments of Senior Executives and their authority;
- i. remuneration policy,
- j. deliberations of committees of the Board, and
- k. communicate any changes in policies, procedures, control systems, applicable regulations including Memorandum and Articles of Association of the NBFC, delegation of authority, Senior Executives, etc. and appoint the compliance officer who shall be responsible for all statutory and legal compliance.

(ii) the NBFC shall disclose and provide to the Board including the director all information which is reasonably required for them to carry out their functions and duties as a director of the NBFC and to take informed decisions in respect of matters

brought before the Board for its consideration or entrusted to the director by the Board or any committee thereof;

(iii) the disclosures to be made by the NBFC to the directors shall include but not be limited to the following:

- a. all relevant information for taking informed decisions in respect of matters brought before the Board;
- b. NBFC's strategic and business plans and forecasts;
- c. organisational structure of the NBFC and delegation of authority;
- d. corporate and management controls and systems including procedures;
- e. economic features and marketing environment;
- f. information and updates as appropriate on NBFC's products;
- g. information and updates on major expenditure;
- h. periodic reviews of performance of the NBFC; and
- i. report periodically about implementation of strategic initiatives and plans;

(iv) the NBFC shall communicate outcome of Board deliberations to directors and concerned personnel and prepare and circulate minutes of the meeting of Board to directors in a timely manner and to the extent possible within two business days of the date of conclusion of the Board meeting; and

(v) advise the director about the levels of authority delegated in matters placed before the Board.

4. The NBFC shall provide to the director periodic reports on the functioning of internal control system including effectiveness thereof.

5. The NBFC shall appoint a compliance officer who shall be a Senior executive reporting to the Board and be responsible for setting forth policies and procedures and shall monitor adherence to the applicable laws and regulations and policies and procedures including but not limited to directions of Reserve Bank of India and other concerned statutory and governmental authorities.

6. The director shall not assign, transfer, sublet or encumber his / her office and his / her rights and obligations as director of the NBFC to any third party provided that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit delegation of any authority, power, function or delegation by the Board or any committee thereof subject to applicable laws and regulations including Memorandum and Articles of Association of the NBFC.

7. The failure on the part of either party hereto to perform, discharge, observe or comply with any obligation or duty shall not be deemed to be a waiver thereof nor

shall it operate as a bar to the performance, observance, discharge or compliance thereof at any time or times thereafter.

8. Any and all amendments and / or supplements and / or alterations to this Deed of Covenants shall be valid and effectual only if in writing and signed by the director and the duly authorised representative of the NBFC.

9. This Deed of Covenants has been executed in duplicate and both the copies shall be deemed to be originals.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF THE PARTIES HAVE DULY EXECUTED THIS AGREEMENT ON THE DAY, MONTH AND YEAR FIRST ABOVE WRITTEN.**

For the NBFC	Director	
By .....		
Name:	Name:	
Title:		
In the presence of:		
1.		2. ....

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